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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/485,947	04/21/2000	WALTER STICHT	STICHT-36-PC	2063

7590

08/18/2003

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EXAMINER

HONG, JOHN C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3726

DATE MAILED: 08/18/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

EC

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/485,947

Applicant(s)

STICHT, WALTER

Examiner

John C. Hong

Art Unit

3726

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 June 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 87-146 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 87-125 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 126-146 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
 \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
 a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                      4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                      5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_                      6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 126-146 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP0240965

Regarding Claim 126,

'965 teaches a displacement unit (Figs. 1,2 and 4; col. 6, lines 14-18) for a manipulation system, which comprises:

- (a) components **84,88** which are adjustable relative to each other,
- (b) a drive **34** actuated by pressure fluid(col. 6, lines 22-39) for adjusting the components, the drive having (1) an outer surface,
- (c) a guiding device for one of the components, and
- (d) a control unit **36** having
  - (1) at least one pressure fluid control valve **26** connected to the drive for actuating the drive by pressure fluid,
  - (2) a control module **32** cooperating with the at least one pressure fluid control valve **26** and comprising a logic unit **58**, the control module being connectable to a central control unit **36** by an interface and the at least one pressure fluid control valve **26** and the control module being mounted on the outer surface of the drive and

(3) a display element **72**. (col. 3, lines 40-52; col. 4, lines 17-25; col. 7, line 53-  
col. 8, line 3)

(4) input device **28**, and at least one signaling device and monitoring element connected  
to, and cooperating with, the control unit (col. 6, lines 11-22).

'956 fails to teach the control module being mounted directly on the outer surface  
of the drive, but there would be no invention in shifting the location of the control module by  
mounting it directly to the outer surface.

Regarding Claims 127-146, the limitations are simply define circuit configurations which  
apply the operating principle defined by the features of claim 1, which are considered to be  
conventional solutions to the problem addressed. So it would have been obvious to one of  
ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to utilize the conventional solutions  
on the apparatus of '956 so as to solve the addressed problems.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 126 have been considered but are moot in  
view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

#### ***Conclusion***

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this  
Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).  
Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

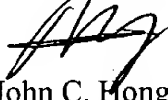
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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John C. Hong whose telephone number is 703-305-0779. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F(07:00-16:30)First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Greg Vidovich can be reached on 703-308-1513. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1078.

  
John C. Hong  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3726

August 17, 2002